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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : HIROYUKI KAWAE ET AL. Confirmation No.: 01-764
Serial No. : 10/026,871
Filed : December 21, 2001
TC/A.U. : 2879
Examiner : Kevin J. Quarterman
Docket No. : 01-764
Customer No.: 34704

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313

STATUS INQUIRY

Dear Sir:

Applicants submitted on March 3, 2004 a petition claiming CIP status which petition was granted on July 19, 2004.

As a result of the CIP status, the outstanding rejections in the instant application were rendered moot. Accordingly, either a new formal action or a notice of allowance should be issued.

To date, no further action has been received in this case subsequent to the notice of acceptance of the petition claiming CIP status.

Applicants hereby makes a formal inquiry as to the status to this application.

Respectfully submitted,

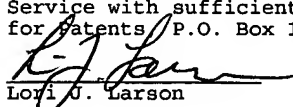
HIROYUKI KAWAE ET AL.

By

Gregory P. LaPointe
Attorney for Applicants
Reg. No. 28,395

Date: February 16, 2005

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: "Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313" on February 16, 2005.


Lori O. Larson